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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/055,424	01/23/2002	Daisuke Furumatsu	SEL 300	7907

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EXAMINER

COBY, FRANTZ

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/055,424

Applicant(s)

FURUMATSU, DAISUKE

Examiner

Frantz Coby

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/23/2002</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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This is in response to application filed on January 23, 2002 in which claims 1-10 are presenting for examination.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-10 are pending.

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed on January 2002 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609. It has been placed in the application file and the information referred to therein has been considered as to the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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As per claims 1, 2, 4, these claims recite, "it is acknowledge"; "can he input"; and "as it is connected" respectively. Pronouns are not allowed in the claims. Only what is being referred by, "it" and "he" should be set forth in the claims.

Claim is rejected at least for being dependent on the rejected claim 1 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dietz et al. U.S. Patent no. 6,408,337.

As per claim 1, Dietz et al. disclose "a work data management system" by providing a method and system for automating the process of managing engagements of non-employee workers (See Dietz et al. Col. 1, lines 58-60). In particular, Dietz's et al. system comprises "a terminal through which to input a work data" (See Dietz et al. Figure 1, components 136 and 138); "a database

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comprising at least one selected from the consisting of an employee data master, a substitute attendance master, a unit/group master, a job master, a work data list master, a work management section master, a paid holiday master, and a company holiday master" as a database (See Dietz et al. Col. 2, lines 20-25). Also, Dietz's et al. system includes "a server" that is primarily incorporated in the WAN (See Dietz et al. Col. 4, line 53-67). Last, Dietz et al. disclose the claimed features of "a Web server and a Web application wherein the terminal, the database, and the server are connected toll network" (See Dietz et al. Figure 2 and corresponding text). Last, Dietz et al. disclose the claimed limitations of "wherein the Web application checks whether data input through the terminal agrees with corresponding data stored in the database and stores the input data in the database if it is acknowledged" (See Dietz et al. Col. 7, lines 8-27).

As per claim 2, most of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. Applicant's attention is directed to the rejection of claim 1 above. In addition, Dietz et al disclose a work data management system "wherein the work data can be input through any personal computer having a web browser" (See Dietz et al. Col. 7, lines 28-37).

As per claim 3, most of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. Applicant's attention is directed to the rejection of claim 1 above. In addition, Dietz et al. disclose a work data management system "wherein the network is at least one of a local area network and a wide area network" (See Dietz et al. Col. 4, lines 53-67).

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As per claim 4, most of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. Applicant's attention is directed to the rejection of claim 1 above. In addition, Dietz et al. disclose a Network data management system "wherein an employee can input or refer to the work data or an application item data through any of the terminal as long as it is connected to the network" (See Dietz et al. Col. 7, lines 28-37).

As per claims 5-10, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 1-4 above. In addition, Dietz et al. disclose the aspect of a user ID and a password for security purposes where time entry is password protected (See Dietz et al. Col. 7, lines 21-24); Dietz et al. disclose the aspect of "checking manipulable processing contents of the employee"; "displaying on the terminal a picture that urges the employee to input a work data; checking appropriateness of an input work data, and storing the input work data in a work data list master if the input work data is judged appropriate; and storing, in a work data list master, the work data for which an approval authority processing manipulation has completed" by providing an engaging manager, a work assignment approver, a time approver, an account payable department (See Dietz et al. Col. 6, lines 1-5).


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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantz Coby whose telephone number is 703 305-4006. The examiner can normally be reached on Maxi-Flex (Monday-Saturday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703 308-1436. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Frantz Coby
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2171

August 5, 2004